



#### **MEMBERS**

Kecia B. Weller  
**President**

Janet A. Neal  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

John B. Troost  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Bernard Siegel  
**Treasurer**

Wan Chun Chang  
Michael G. Gureckas  
Maria Mustelier-Parrish  
Alexia Teran  
Harley D. Rubenstein  
Wendy L. Welt  
Sheila D. Wright

## **Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities**

***Celebrating 33 Years of Leadership & Advocacy***

**[www.laccod.org](http://www.laccod.org)**



### **MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Janet A. Neal at 1:15 p.m. The following were present:

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Janet A. Neal, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
John B. Troost, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Wan Chun Chang  
Michael G. Gureckas  
Maria Mustelier-Parrish  
Harley Rubenstein  
Alexia Teran  
Wendy L. Welt

#### **Excused Absence**

Kecia B. Weller, President  
Sheila D. Wright

#### **Board of Supervisors**

Rhonda Rangel, Staff  
Martha Arana, Staff  
Emma De Jesus, Staff  
Mireya Rivera, Staff  
Audra Galang, Staff

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 20, 2009 MINUTES**

On motion of Commissioner Mustelier-Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein, the minutes of May 20, 2009 were approved as submitted.

(Commissioner Wan Chun Chang joined the meeting.)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Daniel Garcia provided public comment and submitted information regarding the IHSS funding and legislators' excessive auto expenses.

Linda Block provided public comment regarding President Obama's Stimulus Program and the State cuts to the SSI program.

Francisco Vidrio provided public comment concerning KTYM and recommended different methods of conversions for Audio/Video of the meetings minutes. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Neal requested staff speak with Mr. Vidrio regarding his recommendations and report back to the Commission.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No report was submitted. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Neal stated that President Weller was ill. A "get well soon" card was circulated for signature.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Martha Arana, Commission staff, reported Saturday, June 20, 2009 will mark the 34th Anniversary for the Commission on Disabilities. She also announced that this meeting would be her last meeting as staff for the Commission. She introduced Rhonda Rangel as her replacement. Emma De Jesus and Mireya Rivera were also introduced to assist Ms. Rangel during meetings. Ms. Rangel informed the Commission that there would be a mandatory evacuation drill set to start at 2:30 p.m.

Ms. Arana assured all Commissioners and members of the public that precautions were made for the drill to run as smooth as possible as to simulate real-life situations especially for disabled persons.

### **APPROVAL TO PURCHASE REFRESHMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250.**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Teran, seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein, the Commission unanimously approved to purchase refreshments.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Executive Committee**

No reportable action was taken. Committee did not meet.

### **B. Public Relations Committee**

**Radio Program – Disability Network, KTYM 1460 AM aired on the third Wednesday of the Month from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Neal referred Commission staff to the Public Comment testimony given by Mr. Francisco Vidrio.

### **C. Events Committee - Access Awards Luncheon**

The Access Awards Luncheon Save the Date announcements were mailed and sent via email on Monday, June 8, 2009.

#### **Bill Tainter Scholarship Program - Approval of the 2009 Bill Tainter Scholarship recipients**

On motion of Commissioner Teran, seconded by Commissioner Chang, the following 2009 Bill Tainter Scholarship recipients were approved:

- 1<sup>st</sup> District – David Ritter
- 2<sup>nd</sup> District – Xylene Grace Bulosan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> District – Kelsey Sherman
- 4<sup>th</sup> District – Joseph Huniu
- 5<sup>th</sup> District – Steven Ngo

### **D. Community Service Committee**

#### **Report by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Neal**

No reportable action was taken by the Board.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009-2010 TERM**

On motion of Commissioner Gureckas, seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein, and unanimously carried, the following Commissioners were elected to offices for term 2009-10 as follows:

- President: Janet A. Neal
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: John B. Troost
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Wan Chun Chang
- Treasurer: Alexia Teran

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **A. Access Services, Inc. (ASI) Report-Kurt Hagen**

**Approval to write a letter to the ASI Board regarding limited paratransit services, and the flaws in transfer points, in the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley areas.**

Following discussion, on motion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Troost, seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein, the Commission unanimously approved to write a letter to the ASI Board.

Staff was instructed to work with 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Neal and Commissioner Chang to include in the letter a request for service improvements, additional drop-off points, and expanded service hours. To assist in the drafting of the letter, staff was referred to the ASI Handbook, pages 26 through 28. A draft copy will be provided to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Neal and Commissioner Chang prior to placement on the next agenda.

Mr. Hagen was unable to attend the Commission meeting. Ms. Michelle D. Baxley submitted a Program Complaint Form to the Commission for review by Kurt Hagen.

### **B. LA County Transportation Authority (METRO) Report**

Mr. Daniel Garcia provided public comment on the policy regarding the operation of power lifting devices in buses and requested that Mr. Chip Hazen be informed about the accidents on this powered lifting device.

## **REPORT BY GORDON ANTHONY, SENIOR DEPUTY COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

No report. Mr. Anthony was not present.

## **ITEMS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AT A FUTURE AGENDA**

- Review of draft letter to the ASI Board.
- Invitation to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to a future Commission meeting.

- Presentation from the City of Los Angeles Police Department regarding children's issues.
- Presentation on the coordination of Emergency Services for in Los Angeles County for persons with disabilities.
- Update on the Medi-Cal, IHSS, SSI, and funding cuts to other benefits to seniors and persons with disabilities.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Daniel Garcia provided public comment and shared a sample of a handout that will be sent to the Governor's office regarding cuts to the IHSS program.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Commissioner Welt, seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Troost, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

### **Guests**

Michelle D. Baxley, MDB

Linda Block

Magda Carrero, Eastern LA Regional Center

Phyllis Coto, Los Angeles County Client Coalition

Daniel Garcia, Eastern LA Regional Center

Luis Pacheco, Access Services, Inc.

Kalert Thompson, Department of Mental Health

Francisco Vidrio, Get Involved Productions